AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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WASHINGTON, D. C. SATURDAY, MAY 24, 1919.

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AGITATE ! EDUCATE ! ORGANIZE !

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade unionist journal.

GOMPERS WON'T QUIT; SPURNS "SYMPATHY"

New York, May 24.—President Gompers has rejected the "sympathy" of those who would create an honorary A. F. of L. office for him because he is "war-worn." The plan was printed in the New York Evening Telegram. Washington date, and stated that the suggestion was being considered because of the death of President Gompers' daughter, the Library of Congress, a recent accident and the fact that he was "war-worn."

The secret of such a plan and a conspiracy effect on the A. F. of L. executive council this statement discloses.

The enemies of the American Federation of Labor, who would weaken or destroy it, have every time been fully declared and privately avowed their determination to defeat it at each forthcoming convention. They hid their hatred of the American Federation of Labor, but showed their shafts of bitterness and opposition at me.

"I am neither war-worn, nor weary of the work. I am not a quitter, nor can there be any easy berth provided for me. I shall be the president of the American Federation of Labor or a worker among the rank and file.

"Those who want to get rid of me as president of the American Federation of Labor will have to try their hand at the convention, and the honorable fair delegates will have their say. I shall not be driven or thrown out of service by a pretense of overkindness.

"When I retired down, the rumor that I desire to retire from the presidency of the American Federation of Labor, will be found in the wish of some one who hates me for my American ideals or my loyalty to the cause of labor, and who has conceived this gentle method of trying to dispatch me from the field of active work in the great cause of labor, justice, and humanity."

PASS SEVEN LABOR BILLS.

Lansing, Mich., May 24.—Seven bills framed by organized labor were passed by the Michigan legislature during the recent session. One prohibits the penalty of fine and imprisonment, sex discrimination in the payment of wages. Another bill enlarges the workingmen's compensation act, a bill similar to that passed by the Detroit United Railway limits service in all occupations, where the service is continuous to six days in the seven. Another measure requires that all vestibules of electric railway cars be heated. The 54-hour working week for specified employment is amended to include in these employments women conductors, drivers, and helpers of motors and women employes of theaters and other places of amusement. Under the provisions of another act bumpers on electric cars must be of the same height from the top of the rail to the center of the coupler.

WANTS WAGES PAID.

Cheyenne, Wyo., May 24.—Commissioner of Labor and Statistics Bushnell has issued a statement that if legislature pass a law compelling the payment of wages when workers are discharged. He says in many cases dismissed workers receive nothing but an identification check, which in evidence or statement of the number of days worked at the wages agreed upon and that often workers are penniless and are forced to subsist on the charity of others, though a remedy for such is due them from the employer, but which they are unable to enforce.

"A man selling his muscle and brawn for a stipulated price in order to secure the necessities of existence ought not to be subjected to these inconveniences," says the commissioner.

RAISE WAGES; FIX HOURS.

Ottawa, Canada, May 24.—As a result of the satisfactory efforts of the minister of labor, an agreement was reached between representatives of the ship building plants between Halifax and Port Arthur and the executive committee of the Marine Industrial Labor Federation which disposes of a dispute affecting 18,000 marine workers. The increase agreed to is 5 cents per hour, 10 cents per hour minimum, with the helpers averaging 10 cents an hour.

GETTING TOGETHER.

Lake Charles, La., May 24.—An active organization movement has resulted from the lock-out of the carpenters, plumbers, electricians and laborers when a demand was made for such increases and a shortening of hours. Meetings of the colored carpenters, mill wrights, painters and laborers' workers for joint organizing purposes has been called. It will be followed with a meeting of millmen who are desirous of joining with the other workers.

WAGES $1 PER HOUR.

Boston, May 24.—The strike of 1,400 carpenters that continued for five days has terminated in the men establishing a wage rate of $1 an hour, with all the other returning to work, except a few who were employed by the Building Trades Employers' Association. Unless these employers make terms the 1,700 union mill workers are expected to leave their jobs. The new agreement calls for five days—a 48-hour week.

CO-OP. STORE FORMED.

New Orleans, La., May 24.—Members of Division No. 194, Electric Railway employes, have formed plans a co-operative store with a capital of $5,000, which will be sold only to employes of the New Orleans Street Railway company, no more than 10 shares to each purchaser.

$9 FOR EIGHT HOURS.

Fort Worth, Texas, May 24.—The Bricklayers' union announces that beginning on August 1 a wage of $9 a day will be placed from $8 to $9 for eight hours a day. Members of the union in the city have secured increased wages during the past month.

WON THEIR DEMAND.

Detroit, Mich., May 24.—The strike of carpenters involving the district council has resulted in nearly all the strikers returning to work at the rates demanded, when they ceased work May 1. The new scale is 80 cents an hour, an advance of 15 cents. Three thousand men were involved.

APPLY ESPIONAGE ACT TO STRIKING NEGRO

New Orleans, May 24.—Joe Denis, a negro, has been found guilty in the United States district court of violating the espionage law by urging a strike on the Texas & Pacific railroad, near here, September 14, 1918. It is stated that this is the first conviction of its kind in the United States.

Denis, while employed as foreman of a section gang, was charged with interfering with the movement of troops hurrying to suppress the race strike to better conditions. Attorneys for the defendant will appeal the case.

The New Orleans Labor Advocate says that the responsibility for the prosecution rests with Judge Foster, who charged the jury to bring in a verdict of guilty if it found the facts bore out the contention of the government attorney, that the defendant had hampered the government in the operation of railroads."

Invoking the espionage law to convict the negro because he asked his fellow workers to join him in a demand for better wages, says the negro has been fairly treated, and that the bona fide delegates will have their say at the convention, and will not be cast out of service by a pretense of overkindness.

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INCREASE FOR TEACHERS.

Albany, N. Y., May 24.—The teachers' state-wide increase pay bill was signed by the governor, being one of the last bills to which he attached his name. This will mean increases favored by the teachers and the labor organizations. The minimal state salary for teachers approximately $100 a year and provides for annual increments ranging from $100 to $200 for cities and grades. In the first three years it will cost New York city nearly $15 - 000,000.

UNIONS SPEAK FOR LABOR

Washington, May 24.—The claim of anti-unionists that the congressional workers cannot speak for 30,000,000 unorganized workers is answered by the Washington Herald, which declares that "unions represented labor when they had not a dozen, or 4 or even 1 per cent organized."

"The policies they expressed with 3,000,000 members drew to them 2,000,000 more," says this paper. "They could give no more convincing proof of approval in determining the 27,000,000 more would not raise the issue policies.

"The unions represented all labor in industrial struggles. That 10 per cent of the workers have thousands of times called, conducted their struggles with the moral and loyal allegiance of the remaining 90 per cent does not prove invalid leadership. But that they convoiced the aspirations of all. Developing such a situation is simply avoiding facts.

"Reactionary employers and radical demagogues agree that the unions do not represent labor. The experience of half a century proves them wrong. What the unions think and do today, all labor thinks and does tomorrow."

DECREASE IN CHILD LABOR.

Chicago, May 24.—The state of Illinois has shown a big decrease in child labor for the period of the war, to the department of factory inspection, which has issued a call for a new law which provides a strict system of certification for each child that works.

Certificates issued for the year 1918 to 1917 numbered 27,186. The certificates for 1917-1918 numbered 19,946, which does not mean that that number of children worked during 1917-1918, but indicates the number of certificates held by the children. Under the new law, every time a child changes his job he must have a new certificate. Under the old law but one certificate was required.

ACCEPTED $2 ADVANCE.

Oklahoma City, Okla., May 24.—An increase of $2 per week was agreed to by Typographical union No. 383, granted by the Oklahoman, the largest publishing concern in the city.

Los Angeles, Cal., May 24.—A new newspaper scale has been agreed upon between the union and the newspapers which calls for an increase of $4 per week for printers and $3 for pressmen, and awards back pay from January 1, last. The rate for 1919 is $30.50 for day work and $32 for night work. Straight working time is seven and one-half hours.

BUILDING TRADES WIN.

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STATE POLICE BILL DEAD.

Springfield, Ill., May 24.—The vigorous opposition by the representatives of organized labor to the state police measure has been instrumental in defeating the measure in its present form. All the powers of the various manufacturing and railroad interests were lined up for the purpose of securing its passage.

BARBERS GET $2 INCREASE.

Kansas City, Mo., May 24.—An agreement went into effect May 1 between the Barbers' union No. 121 and their employers which increases the scale from $18 per week to $20, wages $38, with 2 1-2 per cent raise on the first $25. Working time was reduced one-half hour, making it 10 per day.

STRIKE FOR $7 A DAY.

Madison, Wis., May 24.—When the plumbers were refused $7 a day much of the contract work of the city was completely tied up, and the result is still pending.

MOVIES GET ADVANCE.

Cincinnati, May 24.—The moving picture operators have signed a new agreement which increases their pay 15 to 25 per cent.

LABOR MUST MEET EDUCATIONAL TASKS

Salt Lake City, Utah, May 24.—The Union Labor Herald warns labor that it must meet the educational tasks in the following language:

"Education of the public to a right understanding of organized labor, of its true principles and higher ideals, is the great task that confronts the working man today. Education is essential to the creation of favorable public sentiment and the establishment of public support. Public sentiment and public support are the essential elements of the one invincible power in the world—unity.

"Labor is seeking to achieve unity. Hence the task that lies before it of educating the people of the world to a proper understanding of the aims and purposes of labor. The task is to W. W.-ism, bolshevism and all the other 'isms' upon the name, of organized labor. It has sought by every means to make the word 'union' a synonym for destruction—destruction instead of constructive co-operation as it really is. By this mud-slinging method its enemies have been able to place an undeserved stain upon the name of labor. Here is the medium of education labor will remove an unwelcome and unwarranted stain and reveal itself in its true light to the world.

"Through the day comes that the public is educated to a proper understanding and appreciation of the principles of labor, labor will organized labor come into its own. Let the educational task of organized labor undue, the prejudice of ignorance and misrepresentation, progress, accordingly, but labor will not halt."

DEFRAY LIVING COST WHILE SETTLERS TRAIN

Ottawa, Canada, May 24.—The Dominion soldier settlement act, which is intended to place returning soldiers on the land, is being applied by the government in an energetic manner.

To carry out the spirit of the act the government has ordered allowances to be paid for the support of families of settlers. The allowances apply to soldiers who are receiving training as to agriculture or to their dependents, and for those soldiers who are receiving agricultural training while employed with the farmer, and their dependents. In the latter case a man is married he may receive a maximum of $60 a month which includes $25 for himself and wife and $25 for his children. Lower maximums are announced for married men and for men who are being trained while they are living with farmers. These allowances decrease every money the settler may receive for work done on farms.

Under this soldier settlement act any discharged member of the Canadian forces who has served overseas will be loaned money up to $4,500 to buy a farm. The settler is required to pay 10 per cent cash down on the purchase, but this may be waived in the case of one who has had agricultural experience or who is regarded as a desirable settler. The first is repayable in 25 years at 5 per cent interest. After the first year payments may be made to government may loan him money up to $2,000 for the purchase of live-stock, implements and other equipment, and loans up to $1,000 for the erection of buildings.

TO WORK 48-HOUR WEEK.

Milan, Italy, May 24.—At a meeting of the cotton manufacturers, which was held in connection with the announcement was made that they had agreed to concede to their operatives a six-hour week, which is one of the things previously presented to the cotton manufacturers by the workers. It became effective May 1. The manufacturers also named four delegates to act in concert with the textile trade union officials in the matter of the 48-hour week. The agreement is reported to be satisfactory to both sides.

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CARPENTERS MAKE GAINS.

Indianapolis, May 24.—General Secretary Frank Duffy of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters reports the following gains for the month:

Titusville, Pa.: Welland, Ontario; Taylor, Texas, from 60 to 80c an hour; Houston, Tex., Cheyenne, Wyo., Bremerton, Wash., Pueblo, Col., 8 a day; $6.30 a day in latter city for mill men. Indianapolis, Dayton, and Hamilton, Ohio, and Fort Dodge, Iowa, 5c an hour; 50c in latter city for inside workers; Burlington, Iowa, 5 cents to 75c. Warren, Ohio, 75 to 90c. Fort Wayne, Ind., 65 to 75c. Philadelphia and Norristown, Pa., Kansas City, Mo., Lynn, Mass.; Rochester, N. Y.; Virginia, Minn., 70 to 75c. Bismarck, Mo., Paterson, N. J.; Terre Haute, Ind., 65 to 75c. Palestine, Tex., 67½c. Hamilton, Ontario, 60 to 65c. Hibbing, Minn., 65 to 80c. Salt Lake City, Ill. an hour. Bridgeport, Conn., Wilmington, Del.; Stillwater, Minn., 55 to 65c. Watertown, N. Y.; Middlesex, Mass.; Webster City, Iowa, 50 to 60c an hour. Monmouth, Ill., 60 to 75c. Troy, N. Y., 57½ for 1919; 50c for 1920. Cincinnati, 50c for 1919; 55c for 1920. Crawfordsville, Ind., 45 to 50c. Peoria, Ill., 45 to 50c. Appleton, Wis., 45 to 50c. Increase, North Shore, Mass., 40 to 45c. Milwaukee, Wis., 40 to 45c. Rockford, Ill., 40c an hour. Fargo, Okla., $8 a day. Bergen county, N. J., 40c an hour on August 1. Uniontown, Pa., 35 to 37½c. Cape Girardeau, Mo., 45 to 50c. Newcastle, Pa., 35 to 45c. Yonkers, N. Y., 40 a day. Pittsfield, Mass., 40 to 45c an hour. Utica, N. Y., 40c an hour. Canton, Ohio, 35 to 50c. Lehigh Valley, Pa., 40 to 60c. Montgomery county, Pa., 40c an hour. Shuffle, Iowa, Local No. 364, 75c an hour.

GRATIFYING RESULTS.

Cincinnati, May 24.—International Molders' union shows the following results for the month ended March 31: Number of new members initiated, 1,519; reinstated, 1,121. During the same period 228 members were lost by death, while 858 died during the preceding quarter of the year.

A significant fact indicating the progress of the organization is that during January, February and March of this year, 31,125 out-of-work strikers were issued by the locals unions as compared with 50,262 in the same months of 1914 and 41,715 in the same months of 1915, and in the first quarter of the current year 259 local unions have reported nor applied for any out-of-work stamps.

Kansas City, Mo., May 24.—The emergency association has granted Molders' union No. 162 a strike on a nine-hour day and an eight-hour day. Only one firm has refused to grant the demand, and all molders are refusing to work in that shop. Union officials are enforcing uniformity in wages.

Boston, May 24.—The union molders of this city have negotiated an agreement with the employers whereby they are to work eight hours a day hereafter without any reduction in wages.

CARL VAN DYKE IS DEAD.

Washington, May 24.—Carl C. Van Dyke, congressman from the Fifth (Minn.) district, died in a local hospital after a very short illness.

Deceased was 57 years old. He was entering upon his third term as congressman. His record for the labor unionists in his district because of his activity in behalf of postal employes and the part he in congress he was a leading figure in the congressional bloc. He was also a member of the house labor committee. Seven years ago he was defeated in part in the fight for anti-gag legislation. As a member of congress he never forgot the trade union principle and was constant in voicing the workers' aspirations.

WAGES INCREASED.

Lansing, Mich., May 24.—Employment in Michigan shops and factories was given to 691,485 persons last year, an increase of 67,621 over 1917, according to the report of the state labor commissioner. Average daily wages of Michigan workers increased from $2.21 to $4.11, while the aggregate daily pay roll increased from $1,775,156.66, in 1917, to $2,851,151.19, in 1918.

Labor shortage due to war conditions increased the number of women workers in the factory offices when the number rose from 16,939 to 21,267, while the number of male office employes employed in factory work increased from 44,592 to 71,128.

SOLDIERS RETURN TO FARMS.

Washington, May 24.—The department of agriculture denies the claim that soldiers returning from the farms are not returning to the farms on their discharge from the armed forces.

It was stated that from 25 to 35 per cent of the men in the army were seeking other occupations. The department of agriculture declares that it has found that in one camp alone 38 per cent of the discharged soldiers' farmers have returned to that employment.

GAIN BY TEXTILE WORKERS.

Charlotte, N. C., May 24.—The United Textile Workers have won their strike against the Mecklenburg Cotton Mills, 2,000 persons being affected by the walkout. The mills refused to reinstate discharged unionists and to hereafter treat with the union. The unions employers of two other mills are still on strike to secure the right to join a trade union.

CAR STRIKE TIES UP CITY.

Pittsburgh, Pa., May 24.—The city was completely tied up for five days as the result of a street car strike which involved the entire city simultaneously. The receiver of the Pittsburgh Railways company refusing to grant the demand of the striking car men for an increase in wages. The dispute was subsequently temporarily bridged over by the appointment of a board to consider the question of the increase by the war labor board for a decision.

ENDORSE SHORTER HOURS.

Spokane, Wash., May 24.—The Minnesota association went on record as favoring a five-day week for bakery workers for a six-day week. The bakers do not work Sunday, so five days, and the ministers will take up the issue in the pulpit. The association also favors a wage raise for retail clerks to secure shorter hours.

CLEAN VICTORY WON.

Wilmington, N. C., May 24.—The Northern of Painters' Decorators and Paper Hangers' union No. 1089 claim a clean victory over the employers who locked them out April 1, last, when a demand was made for an eight-hour day and 75 cents per hour as an agreement has been signed giving the concessions asked.

GET 44-HOUR WEEK.

Edmonton, Canada, May 24.—Negotiations between the employers and farmers' workers' union resulted in establishing a 44-hour week and a substantial increase in wages.

ROCKEFELLER "UNION" HAVING ITS TROUBLES

Sopris, Col., May 24.—The Rockefeller "union" is headed the wave of all trade union substitutes and has been rejected by local employes of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company, a Rockefeller subsidiary.

The Sopris workers show by this declaration that this scheme was forced on them:

"That the aforesaid company permit their employes at the mines to hold an election without interference by officials of the company, whereby a vote will be taken to determine whether or not we will continue to work under the representation plan as now in vogue."

These employes call on all workers employed by the company, individually and collectively, to join with us in demanding that we be accorded the same treatment as the great majority of the coal miners of the United States are now enjoying.

Copies of the resolutions have been forwarded to officers of the company, to John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and to the United Mine Workers, international executive of the United Mine Workers.

BAKERS RAISE WAGES.

Washington, May 24. — That many women bakery workers are employed in Washington on a basis of equal opportunity with men is shown by a report of the survey in the district, of the investigation and inspection service of the department of labor. The Bakery Workers' union has been successful in regard to sex.

The regular union hours are eight per day, six days a week. The minimum day wage for journeymen bakers is $3.50 and apprentices' and helpers is $2.50 for the first three months, after three months, and $2.50 after the first year.

East Liverpool, Ohio, May 24.—After a two weeks' strike organized bakers have secured from $4 to $4.16 a day, and will arbitrate the question of hours. They ask eight hours and the employers offer nine.

Plumbers, hod carriers, brick masons and carpenters are on strike for higher wages. Every car man has secured arbitration of their demands in a new contract submitted to the company.

Bloomington, Ill., May 24.—Bakery employers and the Bakers' union reached an amicable agreement, thereby avoiding a strike by organization of work. It provides for an increase in wages from $24 to $27 per week. Night work was not abolished because it was impossible for the employers to arrange the work to meet that emergency immediately.

Kansas City, Mo., May 1.—The bakers' association has conceded members of the Bakers' union a reduction in hours from 10 to 8 per day, all workers except the spongers and dough mixers, who will get 9 hours and a half will be paid for the first five hours, and thereafter double time. Bakers may still be from $15 to $25 per week.

Dayton, Ohio, May 24.—All the bakeries, owned by Dayton people have come to terms with the representatives of the Bakers' union. This action brings to an end a strike that has lasted for eight months. Violations of the act will be adjudged misdemeanors and will be punishable by a fine of not less than $25 and not more than $100, and the costs of prosecution.

FURRIERS REDUCE HOURS.

New York, May 24.—The strike of Fur Workers' unions has been settled, the men winning their demands. Hours are reduced from 54 to 44 per week and wages increased. This is the second wage advance won during the present year. A reduction of $15 per week will be given a 10 per cent increase, and $18 per week will be granted. Minimum for the floor workers under the new agreement is 10 per cent higher than that received under the agreement of 1917. The dressers, who work on the piece-work system, receive an average increase of 20 per cent.

GET WAGE ADVANCES.

Washington, May 24. — Wage increases were given by the shipping board to 1,200 employes of the navy yard, Capitans, foremen and engineers who formerly received around $200 per month were raised $30 a month, while those receiving around $150 on smaller dredges from $135.75 to $156, crane men from $125 to $144, firemen and watchmen from $139.75 to $138, and deckhands and snowmen from $126.75 to $144. Variations were made in the scale for Chicago, Buffalo and Cleveland because of special conditions.

ICE MEN SUCCESSFUL.

Detroit, Mich., May 24.—Ice Drivers' Union No. 576 struck for $7 per day and won. The demand by their employers. The dispute was submitted to arbitration, which resulted in the men getting a boost in wages from $6 to $7 per day. The employers demurred when the question of recognition of the tankmen was insisted on. The strike was short lived, the men getting benefited to the extent of $1 per week, their wages being fixed at $7.

CEMETERY WORKERS WIN.

San Francisco, May 24.—After a struggle lasting five weeks Cemetery Workers' union has won its demands for increased pay, which is fixed at $5 a day. The strike was declared after the employers had given only a period of eight months had failed of action. The men remained at their employment in the meantime having granted the demands of the workers.

PRINTERS GAIN INCREASE.

Detroit, Mich., May 24.—Typographical union No. 18 has signed a new scale with the employing job printers that brings the wage rate up to $30 per week for day time and $32 for night work. One year ago the per week was $25 per week, but in the interim the cost of living was recognized, and subsequently 20 additional was added. The new scale will go into effect on basis the new rate was increased.

OPENED CO-OP. STORE

Edmonton, Canada, May 24.—The unions of this city have organized a co-operative association and opened a grocery and meat store, with a capitalization of $15,000.

SIX-HOUR DAY PRACTICAL SAYS BRITISH EMPLOYER

Washington, May 24.—A book written by Lord Leverhulme, British manufacturer, in favor of the six-hour day, will make interesting reading for American chambers of commerce and manufacturers' associations, says Prof. Wm. F. Ogburn, formerly of the University of Washington, in a review of the book which is published in the Monthly Labor Review of the United States bureau of labor statistics.

Lord Leverhulme is pictured as anything but a moralist, a sentimentalist or an fanatic, and is strongly opposed to all forms of philanthropy and charity. "He is a hard man," writes Prof. Ogburn, who quotes the Britisher:

"There could be no worse friend to labor than the benevolent, philanthropic employer who carries his business in a loose, lax manner; throwing indulgence to his employes.

In the book are several pages of evidence to show that by using machinery continuously at its highest point of productivity in two six-hour shifts, the worker will produce more than under eight-hour day. Lord Leverhulme thinks the time is ripe now for the six-hour day in industry with the same wage rate as is now paid for eight and ten hours. He favors not only high, but low wages, and he wants the employes to share in the profits of industry. Concerning this plan, which he terms "co-partnership," is in no sense the usual profit-sharing plan. It is not a bonus wage, but is a return over and above the trade union rate of wages and acts in no sense as a bar to further wage increases.

He wants to abolish poverty, an advantage good homes for the workers would limit the number of houses on an acre of ground so that every home would have a garden.

According to Lord Leverhulme, industrial success is concerned quite as much with consumers as producers. Many leaders of industry have seemed primarily concerned with production, but increased power in consumption consists largely in marketing. Lord Leverhulme has to have a broader conception of marketing and makes his profits largely out of retail trade, on the point of consumption. Raising the standard of living means raising a market. Better wages and good because they make a better market.

"Ninety percent of the consumers of the United Kingdom are wage earners," he says. "The six days means two more hours of leisure, which affords opportunity for education, the higher life and the expenditure of more money on the products of the nation. The plan of two shifts means enabling more workers to become producers and become consumers and thus to develop the market. It also increases the purchasing power.

Prof. Ogburn says Lord Leverhulme's book is valuable in showing along lines of increased production of commodities of wealth at a low cost of labor and high wages and at the same time shortening hour of labor and paying higher wages. The foundation stone is increased production.

SET CHILD STANDARDS.

Washington, May 24.—Minimum standards for the welfare of working children were drawn up in a conference held as a result of a three-days' conference on child welfare standards, which the labor department announced will be further discussed at regional conferences to be held during the next three weeks in several cities under the auspices of the children's bureau of the United States department of labor.

Sixteen is set as the lowest age at which children can go to work, the protest of the carpenters was for the contracting carpenters, the latter indorsing the same in part, but insisted that the builders' exchange should not be included in the same board in all probability the decision will be rendered in favor of that reason the exchange insisted on the termination. To the bone that the negotiations for a settlement and the usefulness of the board would be ended if the builders' exchange refused to withdraw from striking. Now, that all peaceful efforts have failed direct action will result. The contractors have stated that the carpenters are entitled to more than $1 per hour, the wrath of the builders' exchange.

BROKE THEIR AGREEMENT.

Syracuse, N. Y., May 24.—Since May 2, 1917, an arbitration board of the Carpenters contractors and members of the Carpenters' union has successfully dealt with all disputes. On April 17 the carpenters' union declared that the board has been dissolved notwithstanding the fact that a peaceful plan had been agreed upon to govern such action. That plan was having been confirmed by the carpenters refused to assent to the appointment of the umpire. What's the protest of the carpenters was for the contracting carpenters, the latter indorsing the same in part, but insisted that the builders' exchange should not be included in the same board in all probability the decision will be rendered in favor of that reason the exchange insisted on the termination. To the bone that the negotiations for a settlement and the usefulness of the board would be ended if the builders' exchange refused to withdraw from striking. Now, that all peaceful efforts have failed direct action will result. The contractors have stated that the carpenters are entitled to more than $1 per hour, the wrath of the builders' exchange.

MENTAL DEFECTS.

Washington, May 24—That seventy per cent of the mental defects of its children is shown by a study conducted by the school authorities in an eastern state by the children's bureau of the United States department of labor and the United States public health service. The study included 10,000 children in all.

The county, says the report, is found in many sections of the United States. The parents of 34 per cent of the white children and 71 per cent of the colored children who were found to be mentally defective turned out the means to provide properly for their children. The schools are inadequate for the mentally defective children, and most of them are of the opinion that the parents of the defectives are situated that number of them are unable to provide adequate attendance because of the distance he traversed. Irregularity of attendance was found to be very general, being and making lowly wreaths of the mentally defective children and schooling of children in this county.

UNION SHOP AGREEMENTS.

Bloomington, Ill., May 24.—A strike of 5,000 coal miners and union agreement is the result of demands made on the electrical engineers' union No. 197, which has been organized, including all building trades in the city. It has pledged its support to the miners in the event of a strike for a wage advance.

Indianapolis, May 24.—The B. R. T. N. are on strike to force the company arbitrator to join with the union arbitrator to decide on a decision on a demand for increased wages. The company refused to arbitrate. It also signed a new scale which sets 70 cents per hour to the wages of 8 mile between Fort Wayne and Indianapolis, and reduces the hours to eight a day.

GET FIVE-DAY WEEK.

Montreal, Canada, May 24.—A strike of 4,000 men in the Montreal Canadian Car and Foundry company, after a contest of three days, ended in an agreement which establishes a five-day week for all employes. The agreement provides for a 44-hour week, time and a half for overtime, and double time Saturday afternoons and holidays.

NEW BOILER MAKERS' UNION.

Dubuque, Iowa, May 24.—The employes of the Dubuque Boat and Boiler works have formed a union of boiler makers and iron ship builders and helpers.

BARBERS OVER THE TOP.

Superior, Wis., May 24.—The new agreement of the Barbers' union fixed wages at $25 per week and 60 per cent over $25, being an advance of $5.

REPORT BY RED CROSS.

Washington, May 24.—The annual report for the American Red Cross for the year ending June 30, 1918, shows that $367,718,818 was expended, printed by the organization. A total of 4,307 chapters are reported abroad. Of this amount, $93,145,000 was spent for the relief of soldiers, $64,858,000 for work in the United States, $4,843,000 furnished work for prisoners of war, $3,000,000 was spent and $24,236,000 set aside for work in the capital, and $1,000,000 was handed in other Red Cross activities.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS IDLE.

Detroit, Mich., May 24.—Failure of public efforts to reach an agreement Electrical Workers' Union No. 17 provide weekly payment of wages to 1,000 workers, involving nearly 3,000 persons are demanding a higher pay.